

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Serial No. 10/780,221

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
SEP 07 2006****IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, lines 17-25 have been amended as follows:

However, prior zero-clearance table saw inserts were often formed of a single piece of cuttable material and thus were expensive, difficult to fabricate with a planar upper surface, difficult to prevent warpage after manufacture, and impossible to be leveled once installed and to minimize flexing during use. Although two piece zero-clearance table saw inserts have been provided, prior two piece zero-clearance table saw inserts ~~secured~~ secure the cuttable portion by use of dovetail joints which increase ~~increased~~ the required size of the cuttable portion, ~~[[was]]~~ are difficult to fabricate, ~~[[had]]~~ have no provisions or ability to adjust the upper surfaces of the metal and cuttable portions, and are otherwise deficient.

Page 4, lines 18-22 have been amended as follows:

Four leveling screws 28, which are known in the prior art as shown in Figure 1, are shown in the most preferred form of the present invention as set screws threadably received in insert portion 22 for adjusting insert portion 22 such that its top surface 23 is within the same plane of the top surface of table saw 14 around opening 12. It can be appreciated that adjustment of insert portion 22 can be accomplished by other manners which are conventional or will be known to persons skilled in the art.

Page 4, lines 23-32 have been amended as follows:

First and second ball plungers 30 are located in first and second channels 32 in one of the parallel sides of outer periphery 24. In particular, ball plungers 30 each include a housing 34 of a size and shape for being press fit in openings 36 formed in periphery 24 inside of channels 32. A spring 38 biases a biased abutting element shown in its most preferred form as a spherical ball 40 inside of housing 34. Thus, ball 40 of each ball plunger 30 engages with the side of opening 12 to remove side-to-side play of insert portion 22 within opening 12. Although the use of ball plungers 30 is believed to be advantageous, side-to-side play of insert portion 22 can be removed such as by use of screws 42 (Figure 1) threaded into the side of outer periphery 24 or by other manners which are conventional or will be known to a person skilled in the art.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Serial No. 10/780,221

Page 5, lines 8-12 have been amended as follows:

In the preferred form shown, each lip 46 includes three threaded, securement openings 48 each located intermediate a pair of threaded, adjustment openings 50 extending in a spaced parallel relation relative to each other and to openings 48. Adjustment devices 52 shown in the preferred form as set screws are threadably received in each opening 50.

Page 6, lines 1-11 have been amended as follows:

Now that the basic construction and use of insert 10 according to the preferred teachings of the present invention have been explained, some of the advantages of insert 10 can be set forth and appreciated. It should be appreciated that phenolic or like material is relatively expensive, and insert 10 according to the teachings of the present invention utilizes insert portion 20 which is of a size considerably smaller than and of a thickness less than opening 12 to minimize the material cost. Additionally, after wear, it is only necessary to replace insert portion 20 and not the whole insert 10, to thereby minimize replacement costs. Similarly, it is possible to utilize multiple insert portions 20 in a single portion 22 such as one insert portion 20 could be formed for a dado blade ~~[[16]]~~ while other insert portions 20 could be utilized for standard blades 16 having differing vertical extents above upper surface 23.

Page 6, lines 19-22 have been amended as follows:

Likewise, forming insert 10 from two portions 20 and 22 according to the teachings of the present invention allows portion 20 to be leveled in relation to upper surface 23 ~~and thus~~ ~~of saw 14~~ in the event that portion 20 becomes warped and/or could otherwise flex during use.